

# The Lord's Day

April 14, 2013  
Ten Fifty O'clock

*“And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD his God.” (Micah 5:4)*

*Please switch all communications devices to silent mode. Thank you.*

(Four and Five-year olds dismissed to Children's Church)

**+Doxology** (Hymn 731) .....OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below; praise Him above, ye heav'nly host: praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**Choral Anthem** ..... Terre Johnson  
“Come, Ye Disconsolate”  
*Sanctuary Choir*

Come, ye disconsolate, wherever ye languish. Come to the mercy seat, fervently kneel. Here bring your wounded hearts, here tell your anguish; Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal. Joy of the desolate, light of the straying, hope when all others die, fadeless and pure! Here speaks the Comforter, tenderly saying, “Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot cure.” Here see the Bread of Life, see waters flowing forth from the throne of God, pure from above. Come to the feast of love; come, ever knowing Earth has no sorrow but heaven can remove.

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## Prayer of Illumination

**Scripture Reading** ....Matthew 11:20-30..... Pew Bible p. 816

Minister: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon**..... Dr. Sean Michael Lucas  
“Responding to Jesus: Mysteries”

**\*Hymn** (see insert)..... RESTORATION  
“Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy”

## \*Benediction

## Choral Response

**\*Postlude** ..... “Music for a Ceremony” ..... Alfred Fedak

\*Please stand if you are able.

+The ushers may seat worshipers.

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Presiding Minister - Dr. Sean Michael Lucas  
Assisting Elder - Charles Greer, IV

Visitors - Visitors are encouraged to pick up a copy of the First Presbyterian Church newsletter in the Narthex or at the Welcome Center in the Fellowship Hall.

## Private Confession of Sin

**Assurance of Pardon** ..... Matthew 11:28-30

We confess our sins to God because Jesus invites us to come to him and find forgiveness and rest. God's Word says, “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.” Thanks be to God that Jesus gives us rest as we forsake all our sins.

**Affirmation of Faith** ..... The Westminster Shorter Catechism

Question 23: What offices doth Christ execute as our Redeemer?

**Answer: Christ, as our Redeemer, executeth the offices of a prophet, of a priest, and of a king, both in his estate of humiliations and exaltation.**

Question 24: How doth Christ execute the office of a prophet?

**Answer: Christ executeth the office of a prophet, in revealing to us, by his word and Spirit, the will of God for our salvation.**

Question 25: How doth Christ execute the office of a priest?

**Answer: Christ executeth the office of a priest in his offering up of himself a sacrifice to satisfy divine justice, and reconcile us to God; and in making continual intercession for us.**

Question 26: How doth Christ execute the office of a king?

**Answer: Christ executeth the office of a king, in subduing us to himself, in ruling and defending us, and in restraining and conquering all his and our enemies.**

## Sacrament of Baptism

Dillard Thomas McMullan, covenant child of Mr. & Mrs. Drew McMullan, by Dr. Sean Michael Lucas with Ruling Elder Wyche McMullan assisting.

## Prayer of Intercession and The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven; hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Please complete the black Fellowship Folder and pass down the pew.*

## Presentation of God's Tithe and Our Offerings

**Offertory** ..... “Dreams” ..... R. S. Stoughton

## Welcome and Announcements

**+Prelude**..... “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” ....Robert Farlee

**Call to Worship**..... Psalm 138

Minister: I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise.

**People: I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness; for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.**

Minister: On the day I called you answered me, you increased my strength of soul.

**People: All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord, for they have heard the words of your mouth. They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord.**

Minister: For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly; but the haughty he perceives from far away.

**People: Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies; you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.**

Minister: The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands. Amen! Let us worship God!

**Choral Introit** ..... Walter L. Pelz  
“Let the People Praise Thee”  
*Sanctuary Choir*

**\*Hymn No. 660** ..... THAXTED  
“O God beyond All Praising”

**\*Prayer of Adoration** ..... Ruling Elder Charles Greer, IV

**\*Hymn No. 469** ..... ST. COLUMBA  
“How Sweet and Awesome Is the Place”

## Notes on the Service

As we continue in this section of Matthew's Gospel, we find that the different kinds of soils of Matthew 13:1-9 are on display in these texts. Especially in the responses of the cities of Galilee, we find those who heard the word and received it with joy, but who fall away because there was no "root" in themselves (Matt 13:20-21). And yet, Jesus continues to invite us to come to him—and underneath this gracious invitation is his own gracious purpose to reveal himself to those who humble themselves before him and his Word.

We humble ourselves today in the presence of King Jesus and we worship him. Psalm 138 calls us to worship this morning as we purpose to praise our triune God, Father, Son, Spirit, with our whole heart. To express that heart-felt desire, we sing, "O God beyond all praising," a hymn that we have learned over the past few years. Use these words as your prayer this morning, especially, "Hear, O gracious Savior; accept the love we bring, that we who know your favor may serve you as our King."

Our sermon text also has themes of election as we see God's sovereign purposes at work. And so, we sing the wonderful Isaac Watts hymn text, "How sweet and awesome is the place with Christ within the doors." Especially verses 3 and 4 should serve as our prayer, "Why was I made to hear your voice, and enter while there's room, when thousands make a wretched choice and rather starve than come?"

We are also privileged today to participate in the baptism of Dillard McMullan, who represents the fourth generation of this family to be part of our church. Let us continue to reflect on God's covenant faithfulness as Dillard is baptized and improve our own baptisms. One way to improve our baptisms is to reflect on the Gospel and respond to it appropriately, Jesus' invitation to us remains open—he calls us as sinners to come to him. Our closing hymn are the familiar words, "Come, ye sinners, poor and wretched, weak and wounded, sick and sore; Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity joined with pow'r." Come to Jesus this morning and find the rest for which your heart longs!

If you would like a copy of today's sermon, please call the church office (601-268-0303). The entire service, as well as just the sermon, is available on CD. You may also download the sermon only from our website at [www.fpcpc.net](http://www.fpcpc.net).

## MINISTRY STAFF

### Ministers

Sean Michael Lucas, B.A., M.A., Ph.D. .... Senior Minister  
 Norman A. Bagby, Jr., B.A., M.Div. .... Minister of Visitation/Senior Adults  
 C. Knox Baird, B.A., M.Div. .... Minister of Missions/Outreach  
 David H. Jussely, B.S., M.Div., Ph.D. .... Minister of Teaching/Discipleship

### Ministerial Assistants

Kathy C. Young, B.S., M.S. .... Director of Children's Ministry  
 Ben Griffith ..... Director of Student Ministry  
 Wes Crider. .... Nursery Coordinator

### Music Ministry Staff

Larry D. Smith, D.M.A. .... Choir Director  
 Samuel Porter, D.M.A. .... Organist  
 Loleeta Rhett, B.M.Ed. .... Arts and Discipleship Coordinator, Accompanist  
 Laura Broughton, D.M.A. .... Youth Handbell Choir Director  
 Kerrin Hightower, M.A. .... Children's Choir Director

### Support Staff

Sara Sealy ..... Office Manager/Financial Secretary  
 Tracy Ross ..... Assistant Office Manager  
 Rodney Gillentine ..... Properties Supervisor  
 Don Hill ..... Custodian

## 2013 CHURCH OFFICERS

### The Session

<b>CLASS OF 2013</b> Henry Hawes Robert T. Jackson, Jr. Greg Powell David Shull	<b>CLASS OF 2014</b> Louis Benton Joel Flynt Robert T. Jackson, Sr. Wyche McMullan	<b>CLASS OF 2015</b> Frank Aderholdt Charles Greer, IV Arrington Rhett Bill Turpin	<b>CLASS OF 2016</b> Hugh Bolton William R. Stanway Grant Bennett Matthew Boyd
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### Elders Emeriti

James P. Bolton John M. Faust William C. Scruggs	Ted P. Clay John R. Jackson Jr.	James L. Duncan II Richard A. Johnson
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### The Diaconate

<b>CLASS OF 2013</b> Charles Greer, V Bert Kuyrkendall Shea McNease Doug Munn Adam Pennebaker Ben Rester Rob Tatum	<b>CLASS OF 2014</b> Wes Curry Daniel Jussely Troy Russell Chip Wall	<b>CLASS OF 2015</b> Grant Dyess John Elder Ron Keller Dennis McGaughran Drew Middleton D Palermo Stuart Rich Lee Rouse	<b>CLASS OF 2016</b> Neal Gregg Michael Griffin George Null Chris Parsons Erin Riley Tommy Shook Chad Smith Greg Smith
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### Church Treasurer

Rob Tatum

### Assistant Treasurers

Ron Keller  
Drew Middleton

### Thanks to those serving today:

**Duty Deacons for April:** Rob Tatum, Chad Smith, Adam Pennebaker, D Palermo, Chip Wall, Ron Keller, Doug Munn

**Ushers for April:** Ken Gunnufsen, Robert Dews, Ralph Abraham, Morris Ames, Matthew Graves, Luke Hudson, Brad Bailey, Randy Henderson, Rand Henderson, Harrison Gunter

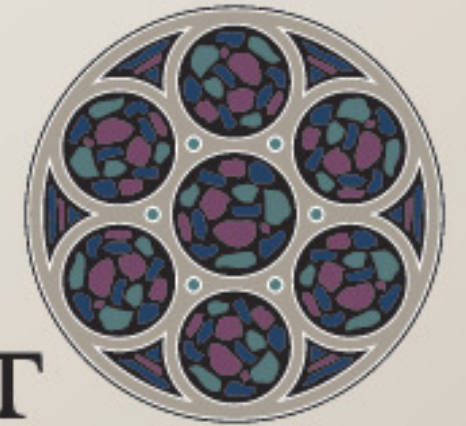
**Duty Elder & Hospital Visitation:**  
Charles Greer, IV

**Nursery Volunteers:** Shea & Bethany McNease, Kate Jakab, Joan Jakab, Brad & Mandy Bailey, B & Cynthia McGraw

**Greeters for today:**  
9:30 - Jim & Carolyn Hardy  
10:30 - Norman Bagby

**Mugger for today:** Edward Wallace

*Mercy Support: If you are in need or aware of someone that may be in need of some assistance please contact our mercy committee or Adam Pennebaker at [adam.pennebaker@pinebeltashley.com](mailto:adam.pennebaker@pinebeltashley.com) or 601-946-7133.*



The  
**FIRST**  
 PRESBYTERIAN  
 CHURCH

April 14, 2013

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA  
 HATTIESBURG, MS 39402

*Grace Transforms*